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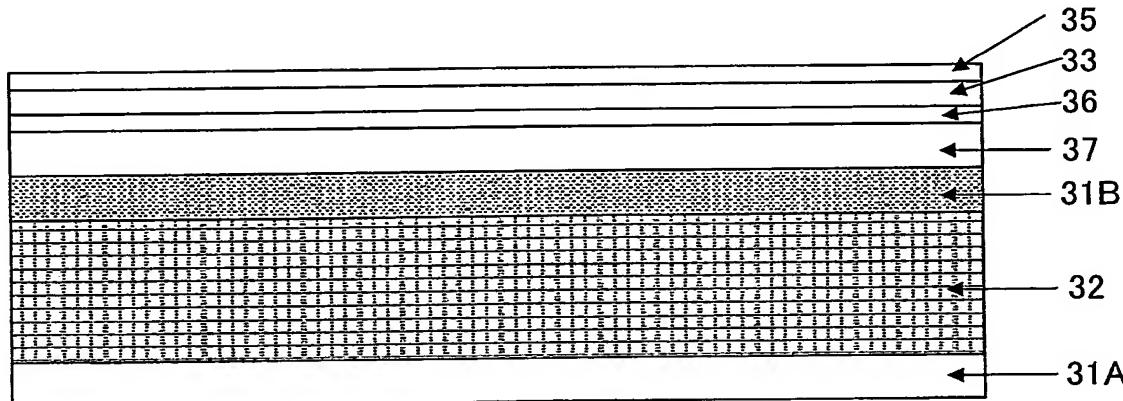
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(54) Title: FIRE-RETARDANT COMPOSITE MATERIAL



WO 2005/058564 A2

(57) Abstract: A fire-retardant composite structure which includes a balsa core layer, fiberglass reinforcing layers attached to either side of the core layer, a PTFE porous layer attached to one of the fiberglass layers or to a fiberglass veil, and a gel coat layer over the PTFE porous layer. Matrix resin bonds the fiberglass layers to the balsa core member, as well as the PTFE porous layer to the fiberglass layers by impregnation.